A number of measures have been taken by the Government to ensure compliance with Manufacturing, Storage and Import of Hazardous Substances Rules, 1989 (amended in 1994 and 2000) and the Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules 1996 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for proper handling of chemicals and management of accident. Different authorities specified under the rules have been entrusted with specific responsibilities to ensure compliance.

Cost studies of Bulk Drugs

2527. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMUNAWAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NPPA has conducted twenty Technical-cum-cost studies of bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the details of bulk drug plants visited by the NPPA;

(c) whether the Dy. Director (Technical) and Assistant Director (Cost) had gone to visit plants; and

(d) if so, whether the reports have been submitted and new prices fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) conducts comprehensive Technical cum Cost studies in respect of scheduled bulk drugs in order to fix/revise their prices as per provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.The comprehensive study normally involves plant visits by Costing andTechnical officers. In all cases of comprehensive studies, reports are prepared and are placed before the Authority for its consideration. The revised / new prices are notified only after the approval of the Authority. NPPA also undertakes *suo-moto* fixation of prices where warranted by circumstances. Yearly statement of number of cases in which bulk drugs •prices were fixed / revised by NPPA is as follows:—

1997—99	- 2
1998-99	- 19
1999—2001	- 28
2000—2002	- 21
2001-2002	- 19